

Resurrection Youth Ministry

Confirmation 1: 2019-2020

Introduction

Confirmation in the Catechism of the Catholic Church:

Baptism, the Eucharist, and the sacrament of Confirmation together constitute the "sacraments of Christian initiation," whose unity must be safeguarded. It must be explained to the faithful that the reception of the sacrament of Confirmation is necessary for the completion of baptismal grace. For "by the sacrament of Confirmation, [the baptized] are more perfectly bound to the Church and are enriched with a special strength of the Holy Spirit. Hence they are, as true witnesses of Christ, more strictly obliged to spread and defend the faith by word and deed." -Catechism of the Catholic Church 1285

"Who's Who?" in Confirmation - Explaining the Roles:

It takes the whole Church to raise a disciple. Each time a young person is confirmed, he or she takes his or her place in the wider community of faith - among those who have played a vital role in helping him or her to reach this sacramental milestone. This sacramental "support team" includes...

The Candidate: it's all about you (and your relationship with Christ and his Church). Much will be expected of you, but don't worry, all of us are here to assist, support, and walk with you on your journey. Come with an open mind, an open heart, and enter fully into the preparation process which will help to form you for the rest of your life. Even if you don't think you want to receive the sacrament of Confirmation, we invite you to explore the journey. If in the end you decide this is not the path you want to take then at least you will know what confirmation is about before you choose a different path. All our expectations aside, you should expect great things from this process! We aren't inviting you on this journey because of all the stuff we want to give you or show you, we are inviting you because you have so much to give the Church! YOU have been chosen.

The Candidate's Family: Parents are not only the "primary educators" of their children, they are the "first heralds of the Gospel." In a recent study conducted by the National Study on Youth and Religion (a survey of thousands of teens), the majority of teenagers named their parents as their number one spiritual influence. Parents provide a child's first glimpse at the unconditional love that is at the heart of the Gospel. They are also the first to show their children, by example, what it means to be a disciple of the Lord. For better or worse, a teen's faith tends to mimic that of mom and dad. We encourage parents to think about the example they are setting for their children. When a member of the family begins the confirmation journey, it can be a great time to start going back to Mass weekly, going to Confession monthly, praying more often together, etc... Continue to reflect on the spiritual life and faith journey of your family. Remember it's never too late, and now is the perfect time to strengthen yours and your family's commitment to the faith. As a resource for your family, we are happy to provide a "Parent Guide" from the Chosen confirmation program.

The Sponsor: The confirmation sponsor's job is to be an up-close-and-personal witness of the Christian life for the candidate. The sponsor's task does not end when the teen is confirmed; rather, the sponsor is obligated to help the teen "grow in faith," to help in his or her Christian walk throughout life, and to seek out the candidate if he or she ever goes astray. Sponsors, and parents too, should pray for their candidate daily. Sponsors will be given a "Sponsor Guide" which will assist in the candidate-sponsor discussions which will take place throughout the year and hopefully well beyond the confirmation liturgy.

Attendance Expectations:

Candidates are expected to attend all events listed on the 2019-2020 Confirmation Schedule . We have worked quite diligently in order to schedule around school, sports, other extracurricular activities, and holidays. Please plan to work on homework accordingly. Games, homework, etc... are not acceptable excuses for missing any part of the Confirmation preparation period. Any absence should be communicated to Sheila upon which there will be opportunities to "make-up" that which was missed. If a student misses more than 4 sessions in a year, Sheila will connect with you.

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Sponsor Information

Choosing a Confirmation Sponsor (will choose at the end of Confirmation 1).

A Confirmation sponsor's job is to be an up-close-and-personal witness of the Christian Life for the candidate. The sponsor's task does not end when the teen is confirmed; rather, the sponsor is obligated to help the teen "grow in faith," to help his or her Christian walk throughout life and seek out the candidate if he or she goes astray.

The Sponsor Guide includes ideas and talking points to help each sponsor communicate the Faith effectively to his or her candidate, who, through the sacrament, becomes in a very real sense that sponsor's "spiritual child." Sponsors are encouraged to commit to praying daily for their candidate and to reminding their teen that they are praying for them. This support will mean a great deal to the youth, especially as they grow into young adulthood.

As you begin to think about who you would like to ask to be your sponsor, keep the above in mind along with the following:

What Qualifications does someone need? (Reference Code of Canon Law 874)

- **Must be a practicing Catholic who is at least sixteen years old.**
- **Must have received the Sacrament of Confirmation.**
- **Must be a person who leads "a life of faith in keeping with the function to be taken on." (a.k.a. they must live out what they believe)**
- **Must NOT be the parent of the candidate.**

Once you have discerned who you would like to invite into your journey, either call them, write them a letter, or ask them in person. **You will choose your sponsor at the end of the Confirmation 1 year.**

Beginning in the summer of 2020:

You and your sponsor will meet or face-time at least 4 times during your journey (3 while you are preparing to receive the sacrament and once afterwards).

Pick a place to meet where you feel comfortable: a coffee house, restaurant, go for a walk, play disc golf, etc... and give yourselves a good 90 minutes to really have some meaningful conversations. Meet more than 4 times if you want! Try for once a month, or even every week if you can.

Open yourselves up to how Christ wants to enter into your lives. Begin and end with a simple prayer. We like this one:

Come Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful and kindle in them the fire of your love. Send forth your Spirit and they shall be created. And You shall renew the face of the earth. Amen.

Share openly with your sponsor. Always remember none of us have all the answers; we need one another more than we think. Christ can only act in our lives if we invite him and allow ourselves to become vulnerable with one another.

You will receive a Sponsor Guide at the end of your Confirmation 1 year. This guide needs to be given to your sponsor and will be utilized during your meeting times.

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Service Log & Reflection

Name (printed) _____

Service is a vital part of living as a disciple in the world. To follow Christ's example we must learn how to pour out our lives for the other. All candidates are expected to give of their time and talents as part of the Confirmation journey so as to learn that acts of service are what the life of a disciple is all about. The Confirmation journey invites candidates to become involved in the faith community in a personal way. The parish offers many opportunities for one to become involved. Take these as opportunities to share your gifts and talents with the parish, local community, and beyond.

Candidates are expected to spend 6-10 hours in service within a parish ministry or in the community.

- A list of suggested ministries is included. Service is not limited to this list and can be done outside the parish.
- Candidates will track these hours using this form.
- Hours must be completed between September 11, 2019 and April 29th, 2020.
- This form should be turned in by April 29th, 2020.

DATE	Description of Service	Hours	Name of Supervisor	Signature of Supervisor

Reflection

Write a **1 page** reflection on the following Due by April, 29th 2020:

Whether you were aware of it in the moment or not, Christ was present as you participated. Did you experience Him? Were you giving others the opportunity to experience Christ through you? How do you know? In light of your time spent in service, how do you hope to experience and/or share Christ with others after Confirmation?

Type this reflection using 12 point Arial font, double or single spaced.

Signed _____ Date _____

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Parish Service Hours

Nursery & Sunday School (Birth to KG)— Contact: Sheila Pelowski; sheilap@rescathroch.org
Share your time and friendly smile with our littlest of disciples! Your role as a helper is needed!
This can be a long term or once in a while commitment.

Cookie Saturday/Donut Sunday— Contact Pat Steier: patrices@rescathroch.org
On the first Sunday of each month, September through May, we serve cookies /donuts, coffee and juice after each Mass to all those who wish to gather and socialize in our dining room.

Pancake Breakfast— Contact: patrices@rescathroch.org
On the third Sunday of each month, September through May, we serve a delightful breakfast of pancakes, sausage, juice and coffee after 8:30am and 10:30am Mass.

Music Ministry— Contact: Joy Viceroy; joyv@rescathroch.org
Music Ministry is open to all parishioners 2nd grade and older. We are in need of instrumentalists and singers. Sunday Mass does not count towards service hours, however attending practice will count toward service hours. Practice is on Wednesday and Thursday from 6:30-8:00pm and Saturday from 7:00pm to 7:45pm

Grades 1-5 Faith Formation— Contact: Stacey Dorsey; staceyd@rescathroch.org
You make a difference! Be a mentor/classroom helper. Just pop-in on Monday nights and check in with Stacey Dorsey and she will place you where you are most needed during either 4:30 or 6:00pm Monday night classes. You do not need to commit to every scheduled class.

Totus Tuus — Contact: Stacey Dorsey; staceyd@rescathroch.org
Assist during Resurrection's summer faith camp. This is a one week opportunity to mentor grades 1-6 during 9:00 to 2:30pm. Any time commitment you can offer is welcome and much appreciated!

Eucharistic Adoration—Contact: Tim Fague 288-6578
Prayerfully consider committing to one hour a week with Jesus in Eucharistic Adoration. "Could you not spend one hour with me?" Matthew 26:40. Life changes when we spend time with Jesus face to face. "Pop-in" time in Adoration will count toward service hours, discuss this with Sheila Pelowski if you are interested in this option or contact Tim if you are ready to commit to an hour per week.

Special Projects for the Parish— Contact: Pat Steier; pats@rescathroch.org
We have a need for regular pew clean-up. Washing windows. Yard work after storms (picking up LOTS of sticks). Also Pat is aware of up and coming events that requires volunteers such as Operation Home Town Gratitude, Christmas Bazaar and the Spring Rummage Sale.

Social Concerns— Contact: Cindy Landherr cjlandherr@charter.net
Help with Food for Friends on Wednesday nights and much more! Cindy has great ideas for community and parish service opportunities like Bell Ringing for Salvation Army and the Sunday Lunch Program.

This list is just the beginning. Share with me your ideas for approval.